

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

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FOR TELATT

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ETEL, ITU

SUBJECT: ITU ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

REF: FRIEDLAND-HUFFCUTT TELCON MAY 2, 1978

1. FOLLOWING MATERIAL PROVIDED AS BACKGROUND FOR
PHILLIPS-MILI DISCUSSION MAY 3. UNGA ADOPTED DECEMBER 19,
1977 RESOLUTION 32/160 ENDORSING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA (ECA) IN ESTABLISHING A
TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS DECADE IN AFRICA DURING THE
YEAR 1978-87. RESOLUTION SPECIFICALLY NOTES PANAFTTEL
PROGRESS AND ROLE OF ITU, ECA, AND OAU.

2. RESOLUTION CALLS FOR "ACTIVE SUPPORT TO THE PREPARATION
AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT
OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS IN AFRICA, FOR THE PURPOSE
OF SOLVING THE PROBLEMS OF THE CONTINENT IN THIS FIELD; AND
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MOBILIZING THE TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES REQUIRED
FOR THIS PURPOSE".

3. RESOLUTION "REQUESTS THE SECRETARY GENERAL, IN CONSULTA-
TION WITH THE ITU AND OTHER SPECIALIZED AGENCIES CONCERNED,
TO PROPOSE FOR CONSIDERATION, AS APPROPRIATE, ONE YEAR
DURING THE DECADE AS A WORLD COMMUNICATIONS YEAR, IN VIEW

OF THE IMPORTANCE OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS TO OTHER

REGIONS OF THE WORLD, AND TO SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL AT ITS 56TH SESSION CONTAINING A DETAILED PROGRAM OF MEASURES AND ACTIVITIES TO BE CARRIED OUT DURING SUCH A YEAR".

4. U.S. SUPPORTED RESOLUTION BECAUSE OF ITS BELIEF THAT APPROPRIATE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAMS CAN PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF ALL COUNTRIES BY INCREASING PRODUCTIVITY AND MEETING BASIC NEEDS. WE HAVE SUBSEQUENTLY TAKEN A POSITION IN FAVOR OF VOLUNTARY FUNDING TO MOBILIZE THE FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL RESOURCES REQUIRED TO MAKE THE DECADE A SUCCESS.

5. RESOLUTION DOES NOT CONTAIN DESIGNATION OF 1983 AS WORLD COMMUNICATIONS YEAR. IT MAY BE MILI'S PROPOSAL THAT

SUCH A YEAR COINCIDE WITH A PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE. OUR POSITION CONTINUES TO FAVOR DEFERRAL OF A PLENIPOTENTIARY AS LONG AS POSSIBLE. WE WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO 1983 AS A SPECIAL YEAR INDEPENDENT OF ANY ACTION COUNCIL MAY TAKE WITH RESPECT TO THE CONVENING OF A PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE. VANCE

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